

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

Kindly amend claims 1-10, as shown below. Please add new claims 11-18, as shown below.

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the Application:

**Claim 1 (currently amended):** A composition of matter comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a colloidal suspension of sulfur in a diketone.

**Claim 2 (currently amended):** ~~[[A]]~~ The composition according to claim 1, wherein the diketone comprises hydroxy diketone or methyl ethyl diketone.

**Claim 3 (currently amended):** ~~[[A]]~~ The composition according to claim 1, wherein the diketone is selected from the group consisting of dimethyldiketone or diethyldiketone.

**Claim 4 (currently amended):** ~~[[A]]~~ The composition according to claim 1, administered in a carrier to form a cream, lotion, solution, ointment or urgent for typical application.

**Claim 5 (currently amended):** ~~[[A]]~~ The composition according to claim 4, and further comprising a local anesthetic, antihistamine, corticosteroid, alcohol or counterirritant.

**Claim 6 (currently amended):** A method of relieving severe itching in patients in need of such treatment, which ~~methods~~ method comprises topically administering a composition ~~as claimed in claim 1~~ comprising a colloidal suspension of sulfur in a diketone to the patient in need of such treatment.

**Claim 7 (currently amended):** ~~[[A]]~~ The method according to claim 6, wherein the ~~composition is as claimed in claim 2~~ diketone comprises hydroxy diketone or methyl ethyl diketone.

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**Claim 8 (currently amended):** ~~[[A]]~~ The method according to claim 6, wherein the composition is as claimed in claim 3 diketone is selected from the group consisting of dimethyldiketone and diethyldiketone.

**Claim 9 (currently amended):** ~~[[A]]~~ The method according to claim 6, wherein the composition is administered in a carrier which forms a cream, lotion, solution, ointment or urgent, as claimed in claim 4.

**Claim 10 (currently amended):** ~~[[A]]~~ The method according to claim 6, wherein the composition is as claimed in claim 5 further comprises a local anesthetic, antihistamine, corticosteroid, alcohol or counterirritant.

**Claim 11 (new):** The composition of claim 1, wherein the colloidal sulfur comprises 1 - 7 wt% of the composition.

**Claim 12 (new):** The composition of claim 1, wherein said diketone comprises 5 - 40 wt% of the composition.

**Claim 13 (new):** The composition of claim 1, and further comprising a carrier comprising glycerol monostearate.

**Claim 14 (new):** The composition of claim 1, and further comprising a carrier comprising propylene glycol.

**Claim 15 (new):** The method according to claim 6, wherein the colloidal sulfur comprises 1 - 7 wt% of the composition.

**Claim 16 (new):** The method according to claim 6, wherein said diketone comprises 5 - 40 wt% of the composition.

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**Claim 17 (new):** The method according to claim 6, wherein the composition is administered in a carrier comprising glycerol monostearate.

**Claim 18 (new):** The method according to claim 6, wherein the composition is administered in a carrier comprising propylene glycol.

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